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CENTRAL FAX CENTER****OCT 07 2005****FAX TRANSMISSION****DATE:** October 7, 2005**PTO IDENTIFIER:** Application Number 10/825,456-Conf. #8332  
Patent Number**Inventor:** Michael P. Cunningham et al.**MESSAGE TO:** US Patent and Trademark Office**FAX NUMBER:** (571) 273-8300**FROM:** RADER, FISHMAN & GRAUER PLLC

Michael B. Stewart

**PHONE:** (248) 594-0633**Attorney Dkt. #:** 65042-0443**PAGES (Including Cover Sheet):** 27**CONTENTS:** Amendment In Response to Non-Final Office Action (25 pages)  
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PTO/SB/97 (09-04)

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Application No. (if known): 10/825,456

Attorney Docket No.: 65042-0443

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Amendment In Response to Non-Final Office Action (25 pages)

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(Kathryn L. Nash)

Docket No.: 65042-0443  
(PATENT)

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re Patent Application of:  
Michael P. Cunningham et al.

Application No.: 10/825,456

Confirmation No.: 8332

Filed: April 15, 2004

Art Unit: 3612

For: SECUREMENT MECHANISM INCLUDING  
TOP LOADING TIE DOWN CLEAT  
ASSEMBLY AND LOCKING MEMBER

Examiner: H. L. Gutman

**AMENDMENT IN RESPONSE TO NON-FINAL OFFICE ACTION**

MS Amendment  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

**INTRODUCTORY COMMENTS**

In response to the Office Action dated September 1, 2005, please amend the above-identified U.S. patent application as follows:

**Amendments to the Specification** begin on page 2 of this paper.

**Amendments to the Claims** are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 3 of this paper.

**Amendments to the Drawings** begin on page 9 of this paper and include both an attached replacement sheet and an annotated sheet showing changes.

**Remarks/Arguments** begin on page 10 of this paper.

An **Appendix** including amended drawing figures is attached following page 11 of this paper.